Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—
(a) Yes.

(b) Vide answer to Question No. 29.

Agricultural Moratorium—period—extension of.

31. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*—Will the Government state:—

(a) the circumstances under which they did not extend the period of their Agricultural Moratorium;

(b) whether they intend to cancel all execution proceedings that have resulted from the non-extension of the Moratorium?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—

(a) The Proclamation in question was purely a temporary measure. In view of several other relief measures since adopted, it was not considered expedient to extend its period.

(b) No.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*—Do not the conditions that warranted the issue of the original proclamation exist now?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—The answer supplied to the question is specific enough. This topic seems to be an hydraheaded one, always rearing its head in one form or another. The question was discussed and the difficulties were pointed out.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*— It is not an hydra-headed thing. It is a man's head. Am I to take that the Hon'ble Member wants time to answer my question?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—They have changed perceptibly for the better.

Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen *(Kattur).*—May I know what were the special facilities that were given to the debtors to pay up their debts during the moratorium period? No relief was given during the period of moratorium.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—The moratorium was only to give breathing time, as it were, to the debtors. They never had to pay anything during that period.

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Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen *(Kattur).*—It was merely lengthening the rope. During that period Government should have carried out some relief measures.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—The Land Mortgage Bank was organised and started.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*—It was long after that.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—At least for six months they had not to pay anything.

Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen *(Kattur).*—That is no relief at all. They will have to pay it afterwards. Some machinery to relieve the distress should have been introduced during the period of moratorium.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—During the pendency of the proclamation Government were taking steps to organise the Land Mortgage Bank. The recommendation of the Antony Committee in this direction was immediately given effect to and within a few months the Land Mortgage Bank was started, it took charge of the old loans and began to issue fresh loans.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*—During the continuance of the agricultural moratorium not even a single pie of Government loan was given to the agriculturists. It was ungentlemanly to have stopped it suddenly. That is the point we want to stress. The remedy comes after the death.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur South).*—Does the Hon'ble Member think that all the debtors are dead?

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*—At least they are dead legally.

32. Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen *(Kattur).*—Will the Government state:—

(a) whether the Agricultural Moratorium was not declared by the Government to guard against the possibility of those Agriculturists for whom Government's plan of debt relief would give protection, going to ruin;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government's machinery of relief began to work with effect only long after the termination of the period of Moratorium;

(c) whether they propose to annul all the coercive proceedings taken in the interval?

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Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—(a) The Proclamation was issued with a view to give some temporary relief to agriculturist-debtors who were not able immediately to pay moneys due under decrees of courts against them.

(b) If by 'Government's machinery of relief' the Honourable Member refers to the Land Mortgage Bank, the institution began to sanction loans a few months after the expiry of the Proclamation.

(c) No.

Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen *(Kattur).*—Was there any relief to the agriculturists by the moratorium?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—The idea of the Proclamation was to suspend payment until the time when a suitable machinery would be organised to issue loans to the debtors, who can take advantage of such loans to repay their creditors.

Mr. K. M. Kunhi Moideen *(Kattur).*—Why was not the moratorium extended till the period when the Government carried into effect the proposed measure of relief?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—It was sufficiently extended.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*—Was it not incumbent on the part of the Government to see that this concession should continue for sometime till the Land Mortgage Bank began to distribute loans? That is what we want to know.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—Government thought otherwise.

Extension of the period of Moratorium — resolution regarding.

33. Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*—Will the Government state the steps they have taken on Resolution 21 of this Honourable House, dated 14th February 1936, regarding the extension of the period of the Moratorium?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar *(Secretary to Government).*—The resolution was withdrawn by leave of the House.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur).*—Has not this resolution asking for the continuance of the moratorium clearly indicated in this House the firm demand of the non-official

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